

Message Text

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43

ACTION PPTE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SCA-01 INSE-00 SY-04 /016 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8132

UNCLAS MANILA 13092

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CPAS RP

SUBJ: ALTERED PASSPORTS

REF: MANILA 12848

1. INS HAS INFORMED US THAT ANICIA PONTILLAS HAS BEEN ARRESTED AND DEPORTED TO PHILIPPINES. SHE IS APPARENTLY SAME AS ALICIA FONTILLAS WHO WE NAMED IN REFTEL AND WHO MAY ALSO BE IDENTICAL WITH "ANNIE" FONTILLAS NAMED THEREIN. REPORT FROM INS ALSO STATES THAT NATIVIDAD PUNGOL PAYAMO (APPARENTLY IDENTICAL WITH NATIVIDAD PUMGOL PAYUMO NAMED IN REFTEL) IS STILL BEING SOUGHT.

2. PHIL IMMIGRATION SAYS ALLEGED MODUS OPERANDI OF SYNDICATE WAS TO PROCURE BOTH PHILIPPINE AND US PASSPORTS FOR AN INDIVIDUAL WHO WISHED TO GO TO U.S. PHIL PASSPORT WAS USUALLY USED IN LEAVING R.P. FOR MEXICO SINCE RESTITUTO CALAYCAY JIMENEZ (REFTEL) COULD EASILY PROCURE MEXICAN VISAS. ENTRY INTO U.S. WAS MADE FROM TIJUANA BY USING U.S. PASSPORT.

3. ASSUMING FOREGOING MODUS OPERANDI IS ACCURATE, WE WOULD SUPPOSE ROUNDABOUT ROUTING WAS NECESSARY TO AVOID DIFFICULTIES IN FORGING PHIL VISAS AND ENTRY STAMPS. IF WOULD-BE TRAVELLER ALREADY PASSESSSED A PHIL PASSPORT, ALL THAT WOULD HAVE TO BE FORGED WOULD BE EXIT PERMIT STAMP WHICH IS NOT MUWWI-COLORED LIKE PHIL VISA. WE HAVE ASKED OUR CONTACT AT PHIL IMMIGRATION INTELLIGENCE DIVISION WHETHER OUR SPECULATION ON THIS JIBED WITH HIS OR IF HE

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COULD PROVIDE ANY OTHER EXPLANATION. HE WAS AS MUCH IN

DARK AS WE AND COULD ONLY STATE THAT OUR RATIONALE MIGHT BE CORRECT. NOTE THAT ACCURACY OF MODUS OPERANDI DOUBTFUL, HOWEVER, SINCE IT WAS NOT FOLLOWED BY MARASIGAN AND SACDALAN (MANILA 12576).

4. AN ANONYMOUS INFORMANT TELEPHONED PHIL IMMIGRATION AND IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS A CUSTOMER OF THE SYNDICATE WHO HAD ALREADY MADE A DOWN PAYMENT FOR AN ALTERED U.S. PASSPORT. HE PROVIDED SEVERAL NEW NAMES OF PERSONS ALLEGEDLY CONNECTED WITH SYNDICATE. PHIL IMMIGRATION IS FOLLOWING UP THESE LEADS AT PRESENT. OF INTEREST WAS INFORMANT'S ALLEGATION THAT SYNDICATE HAS ALREADY SENT MORE THAN 50 FILIPINOS TO U.S. WITH ALTERED U.S. PASSPORTS.
SULLIVAN

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